

# Structural characterization of thermoresistant enteroviruses

Simon Meister, Alessio Prunotto, Matteo Dal Peraro, Tamar Kohn

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# Introduction

**Temperature and thermostability are important in:**

***Food consumption***



**Fat content**

***Vaccination***



**MgCl<sub>2</sub>**

***Environmental persistence***



**Sediment/adsorption**

**The matrix and the virus significantly influence thermostability**

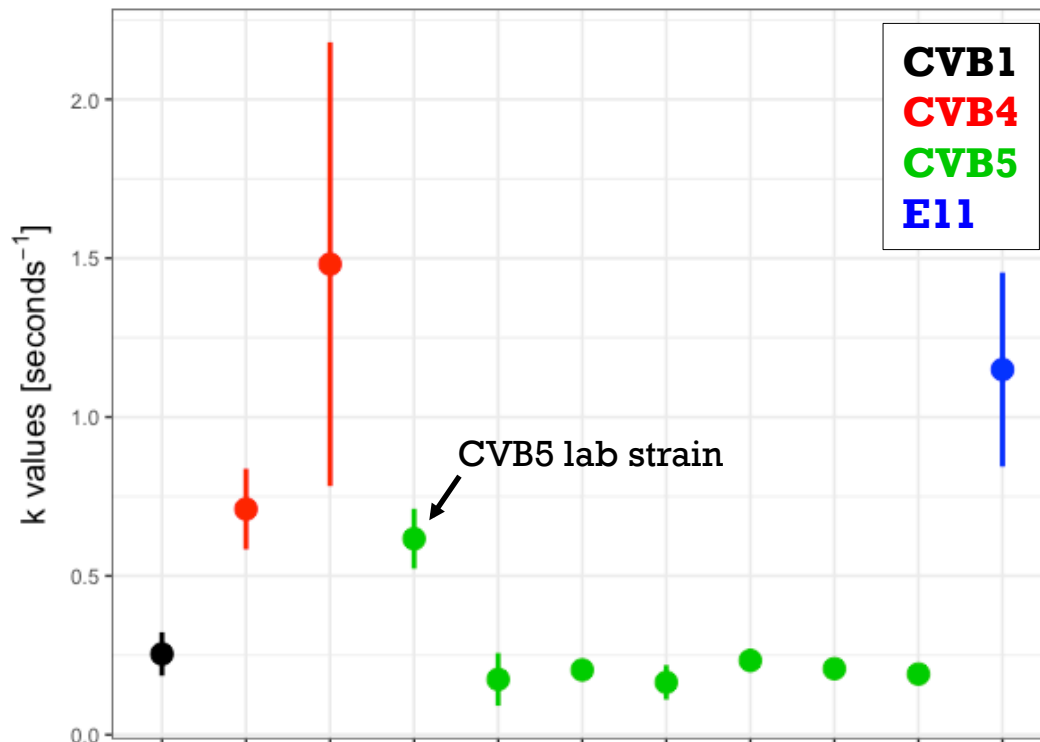
# Introduction

## Variability in Disinfection Resistance between Currently Circulating Enterovirus B Serotypes and Strains

Simon Meister, Matthew E. Verbyla,<sup>†</sup> Marius Klinger, and Tamar Kohn<sup>\*•</sup>

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**Thermal  
Inactivation at  
55°C  
k values**



1. CVB1 and CVB5 isolates are more thermostable than CVB4 isolates and E11

2. CVB5 laboratory strain less thermostable than CVB5 isolates

**Same buffer used !**

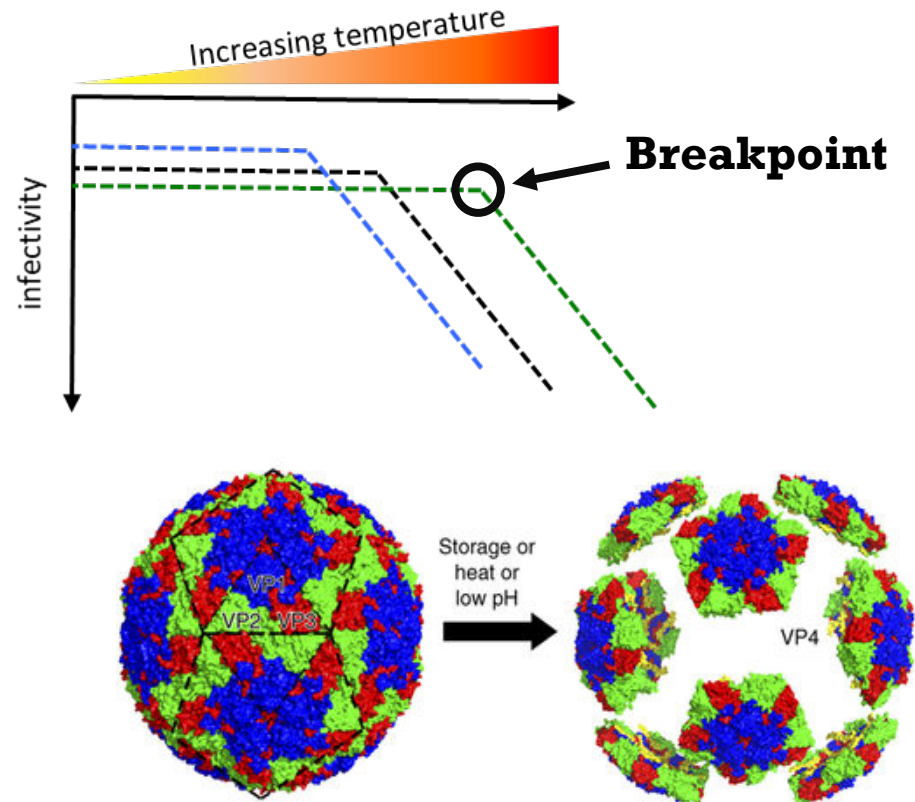
# Introduction

## Goals:

1. Identify the mechanisms of virus inactivation during thermal inactivation
2. Characterize structural features that enhance thermostability

## Approach:

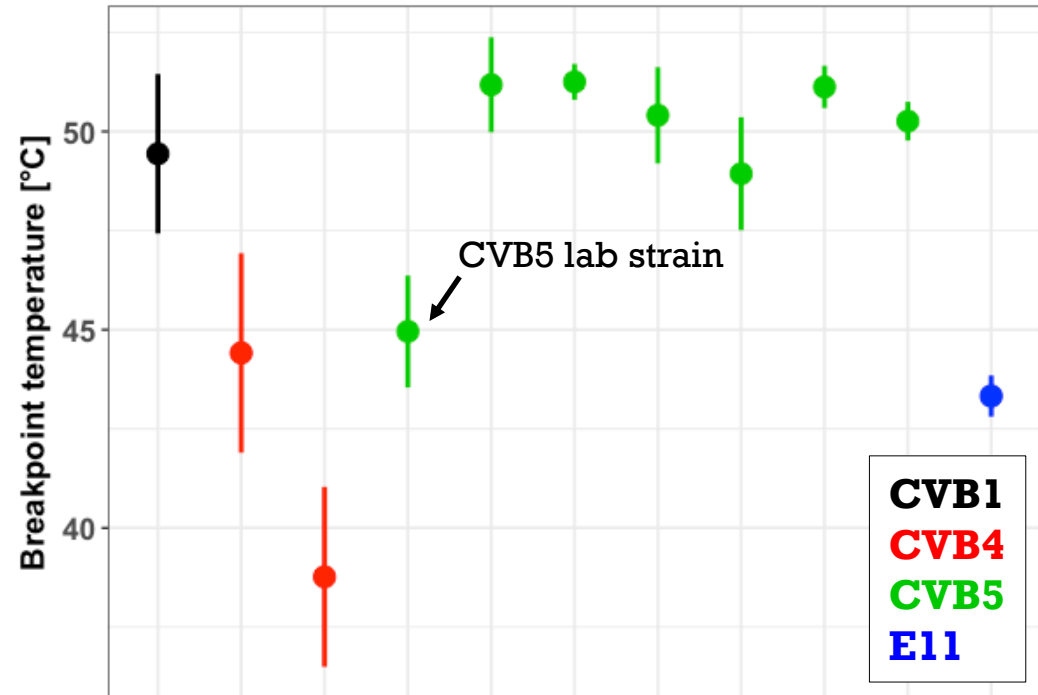
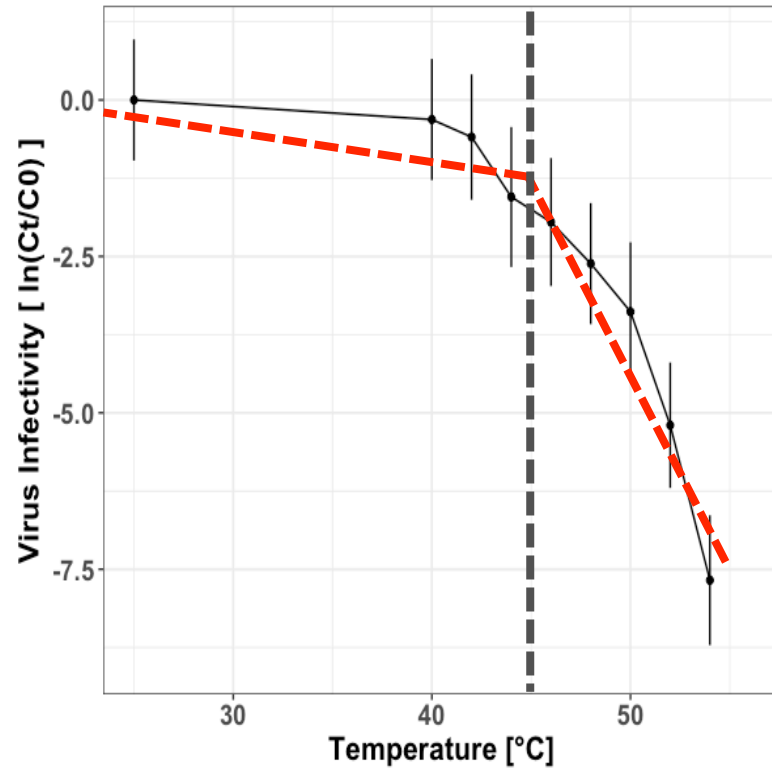
1. *Thermal-shift assay to determine the breakpoint*
2. *Capsid modeling*
3. *High and Low temperature*
4. *Heat adaptation*





# Results

## Breakpoint

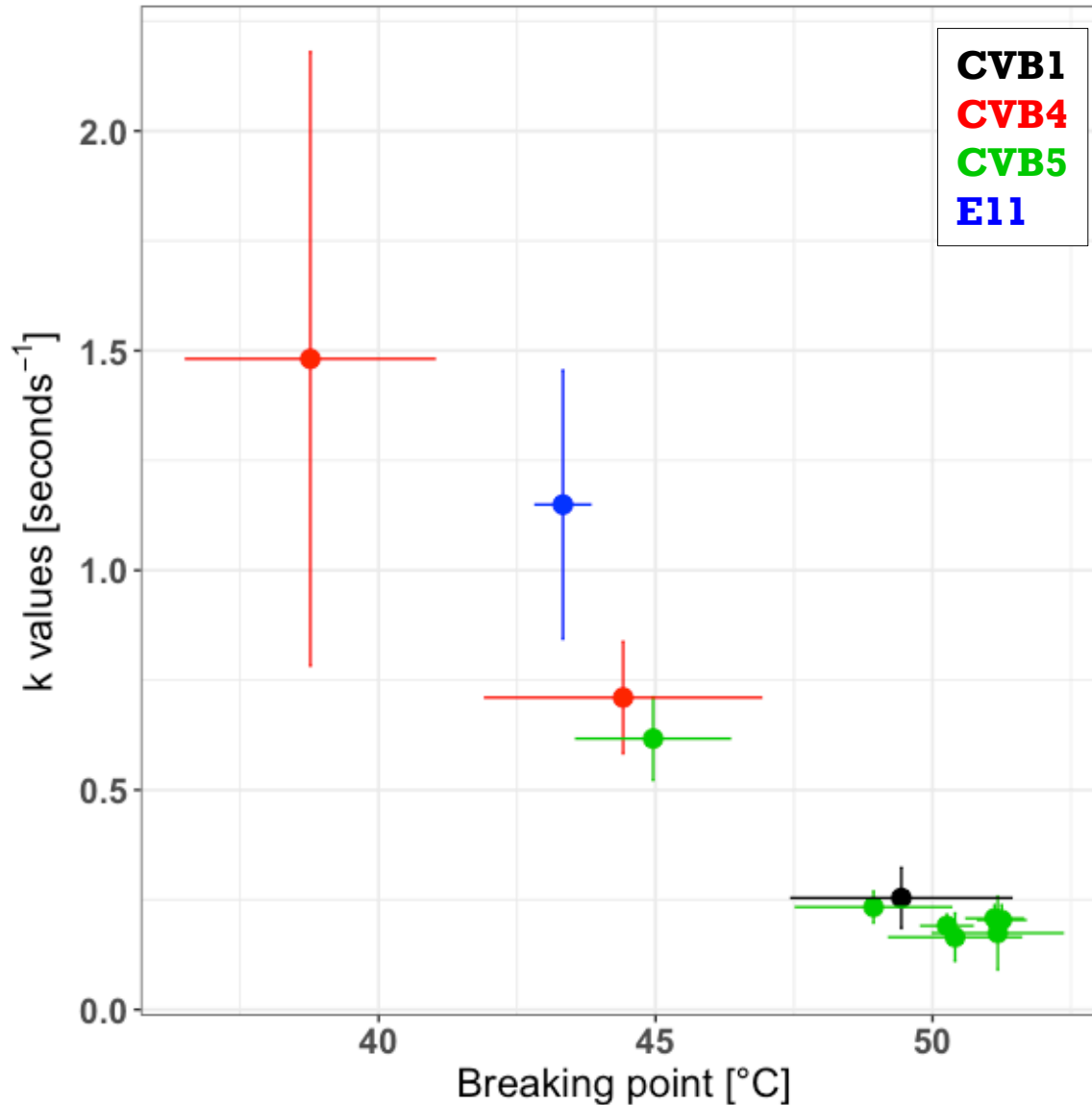


→ **CVB1 and CVB5 strains have high breakpoints**

→ **E11 and CVB4 strains have low breakpoint**

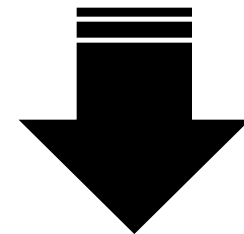
# Results

## Correlation: Breakpoint with k values



Break point is indicative of thermal inactivation kinetics at 55°C.

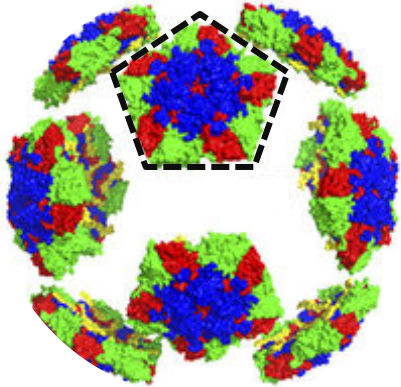
But why does thermostability differ?



**CAPSID MODELING**

# Results

## Deeper insights on the capsid structure of the isolates



→ 3D modeling of the capsid isolates using CVB3 as scaffold

→ Analysis of different parameters:

*Disulfid bonds*

*Hydrogen bonds*

*Hydrophobic core pockets*

*Salt bridges*

*Electrostatic interactions*

**Structure**

## Identification of the Structural Basis of Thermal Lability of a Virus Provides a Rationale for Improved Vaccines

Verónica Rincón,<sup>1</sup> Alicia Rodríguez-Huete,<sup>1</sup> Silvia López-Argüello,<sup>1</sup> Beatriz Ibarra-Molero,<sup>2</sup> Jose M. Sanchez-Ruiz,<sup>2</sup> Michiel M. Harmsen,<sup>3</sup> and Mauricio G. Mateu<sup>1,\*</sup>

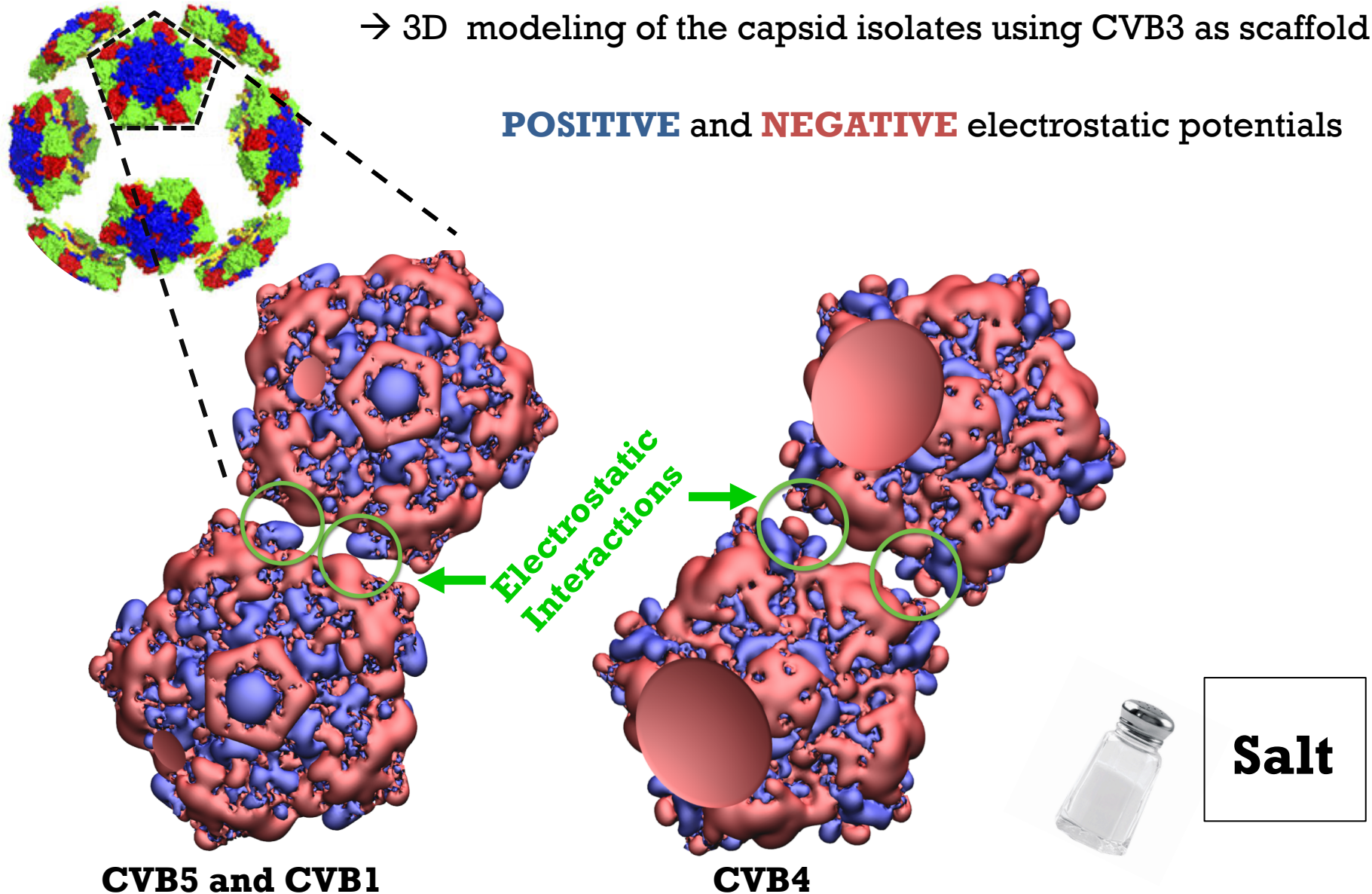
1. **Negatively charged residues exert electrostatic repulsion between capsid subunits**
2. **Compensated by dipole-dipole**

# Results

## Deeper insights on the capsid structure of the isolates

→ 3D modeling of the capsid isolates using CVB3 as scaffold

**POSITIVE** and **NEGATIVE** electrostatic potentials

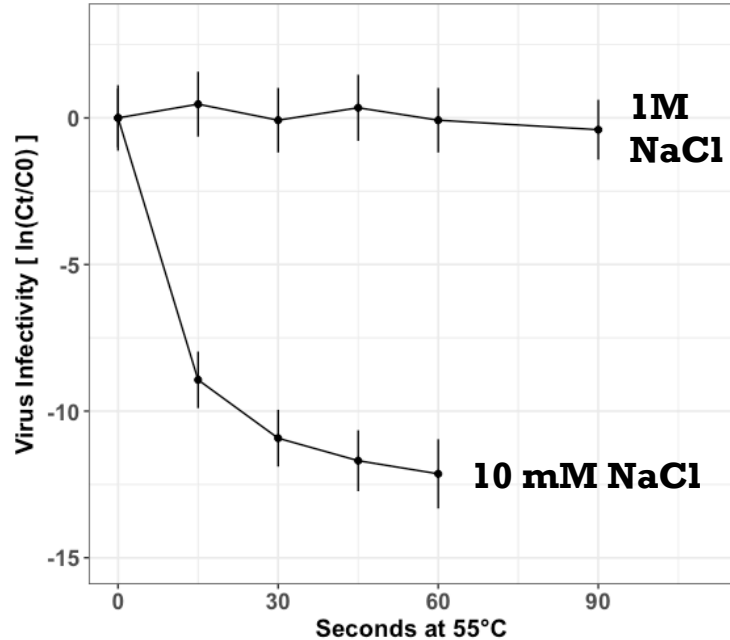




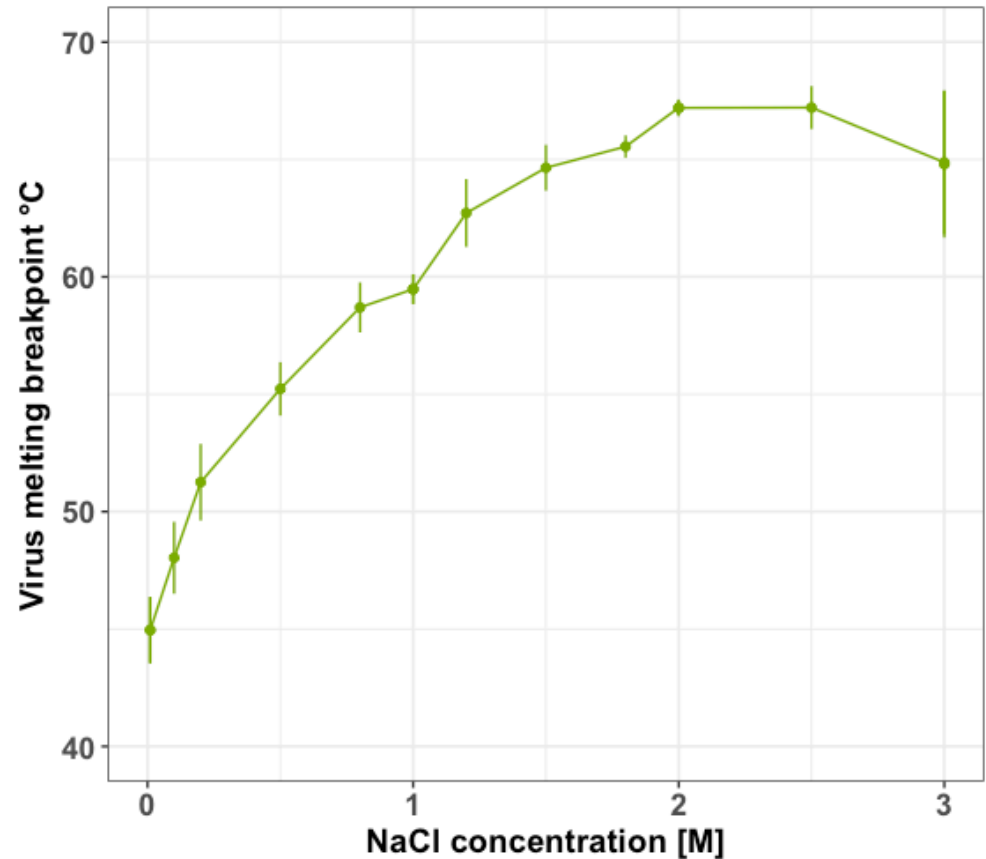
# Results

## Effect of salt on thermostability

55° C



## Thermal-shift assay with increasing salt concentration



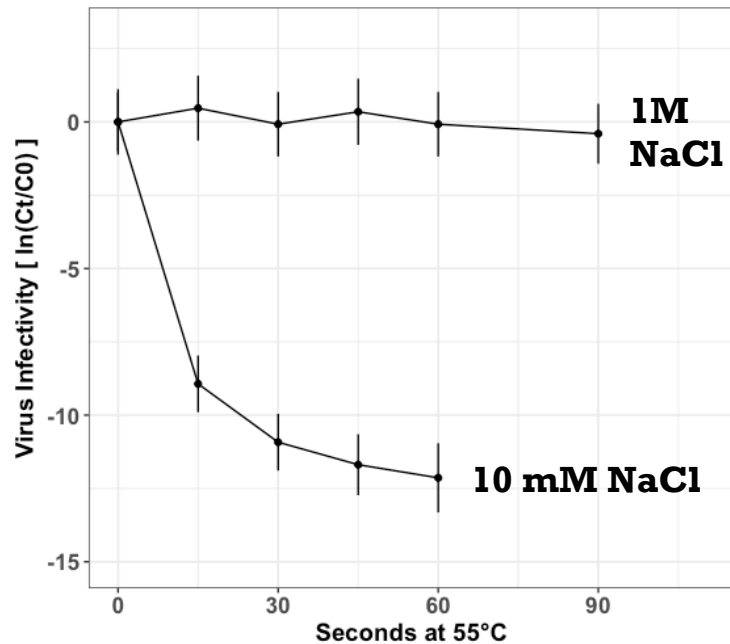
**1. Highly protective effect of salt**

**2. But what about breakpoints ?**

# Results

## Effect of salt on thermostability

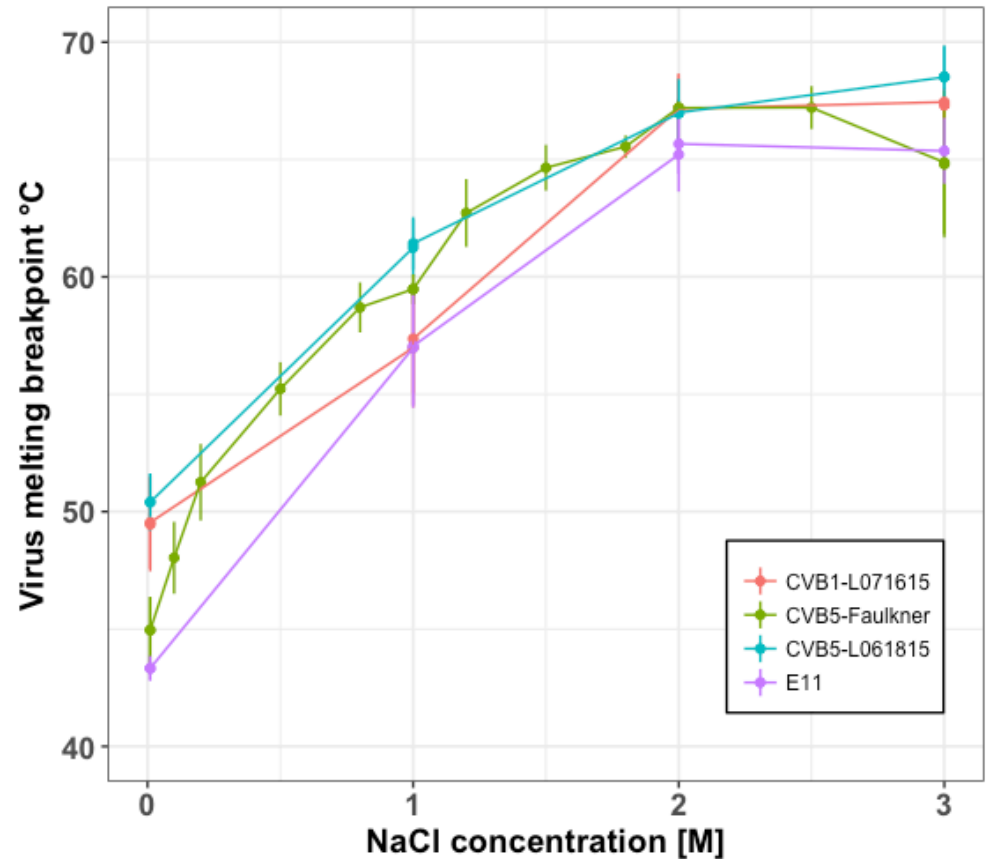
55° C



**1. Highly protective effect of salt**

**2. But what about breakpoints ?**

## Thermal-shift assay with increasing salt concentration

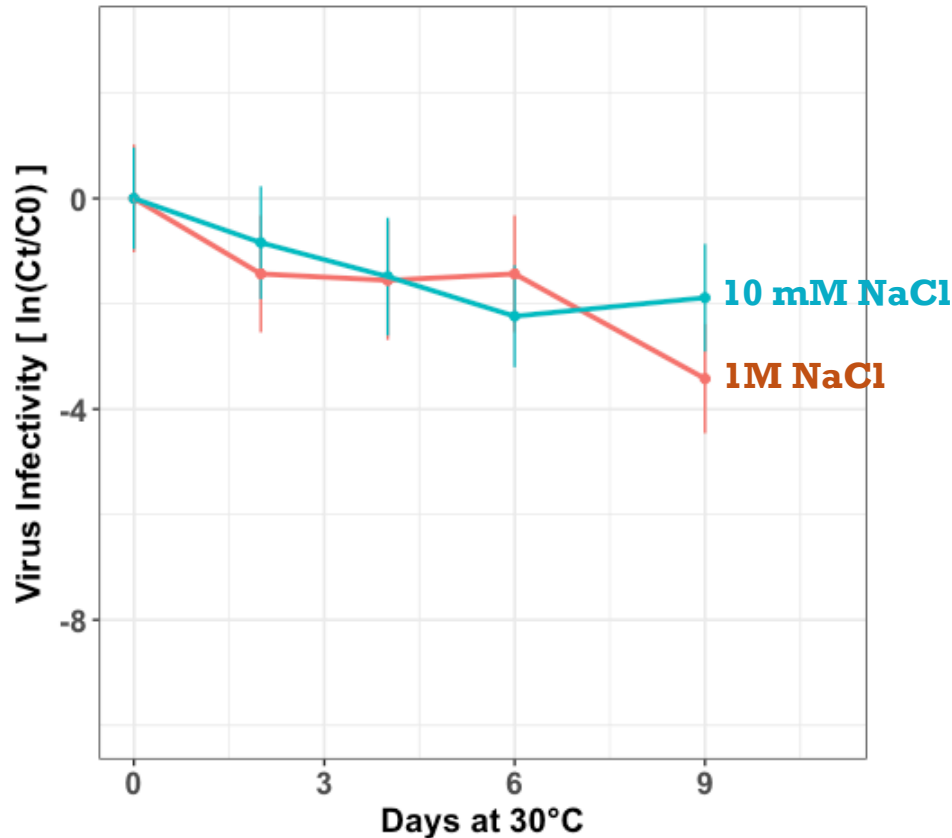


**→ The breakpoints can be shifted up by 20 degrees**

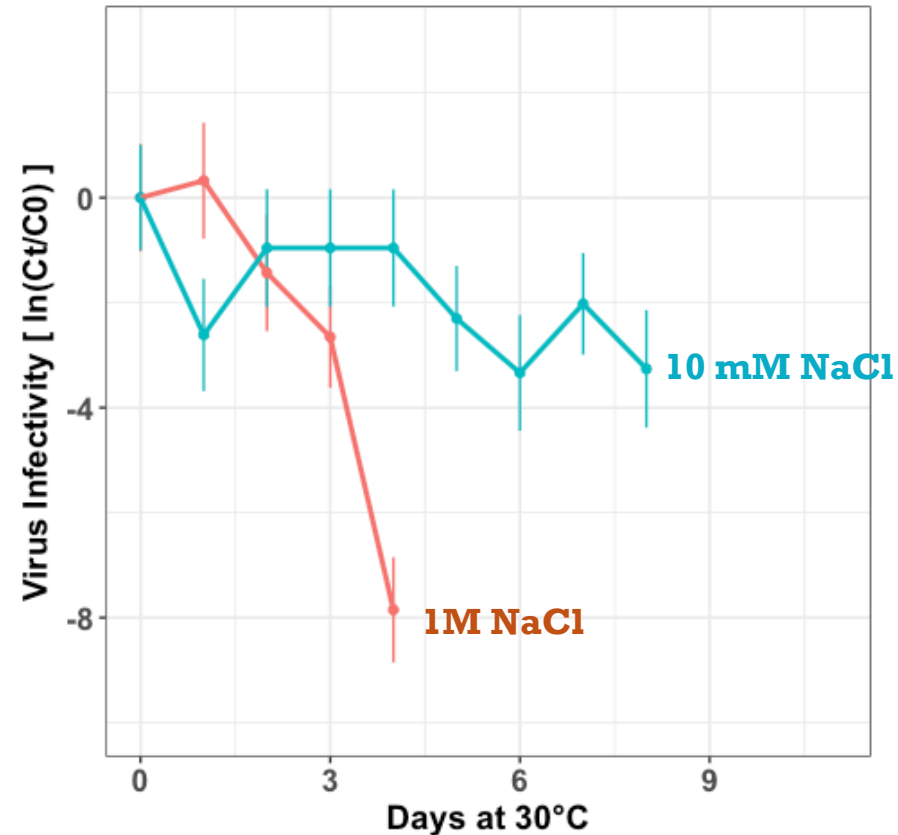
# Results

## Effect of salt on thermostability

30° C, pH = neutral



30° C, pH = alkaline



1. Effect of salt at 30° C only at alkaline pH
2. Genome damage occurs, but does not correlate with infectivity loss

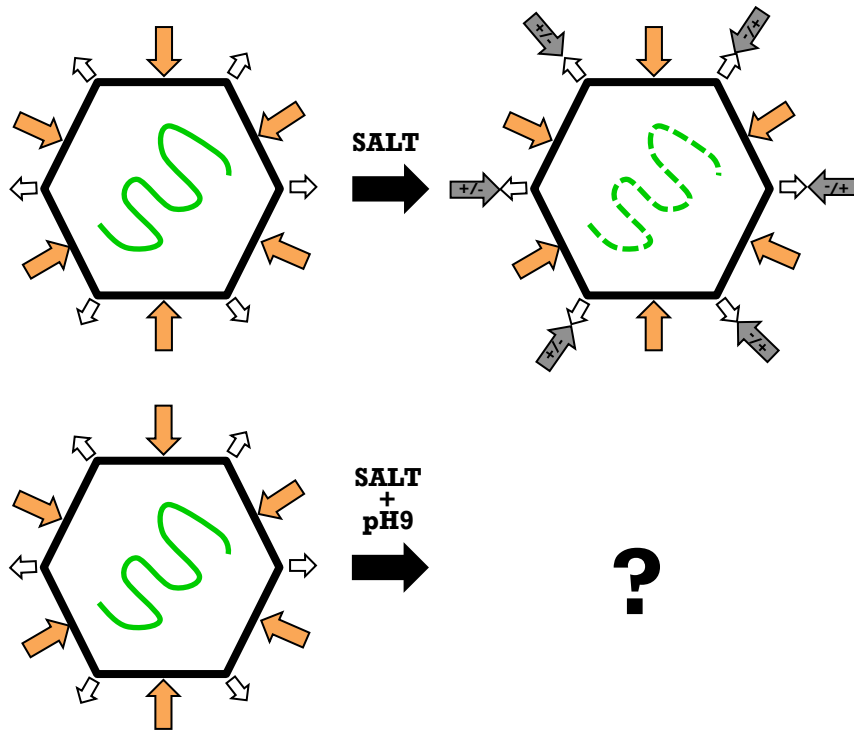
→ **The inactivation mechanisms are not the same at 55 and 30° C**

# Results

## Proposed mechanisms

### At 30° C

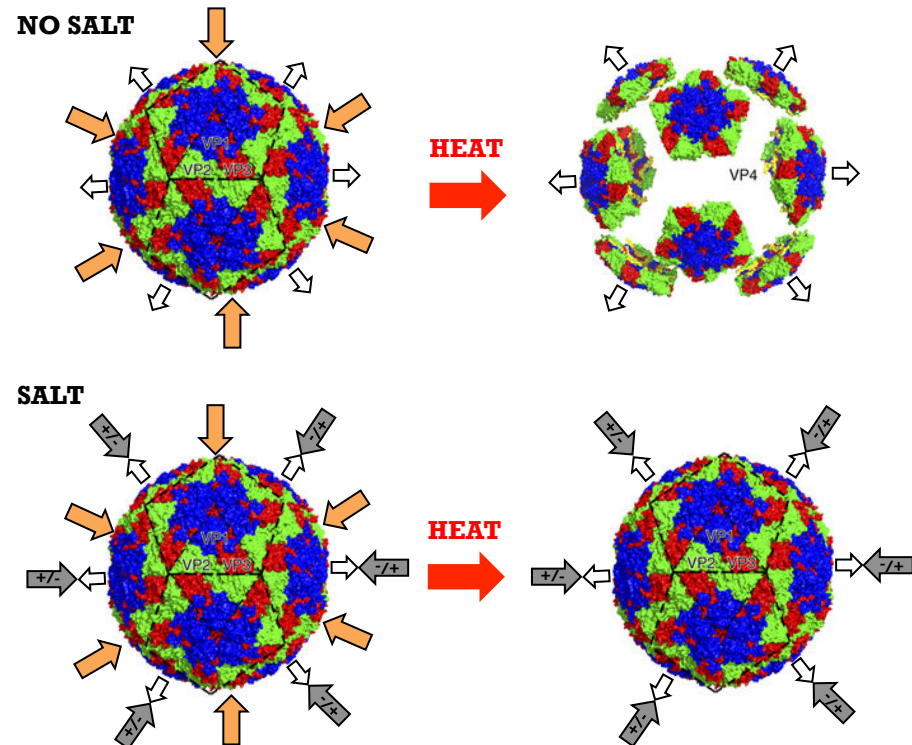
1. Genome degradation occurs but does not correlate to infectivity loss
2. Effect of salt only at alkaline pH



Salts Repulsions Dipole-dipole

### At 55° C

1. Capsid disintegration dominates
2. Salt shields repulsive interactions and thereby protects capsid





# Results

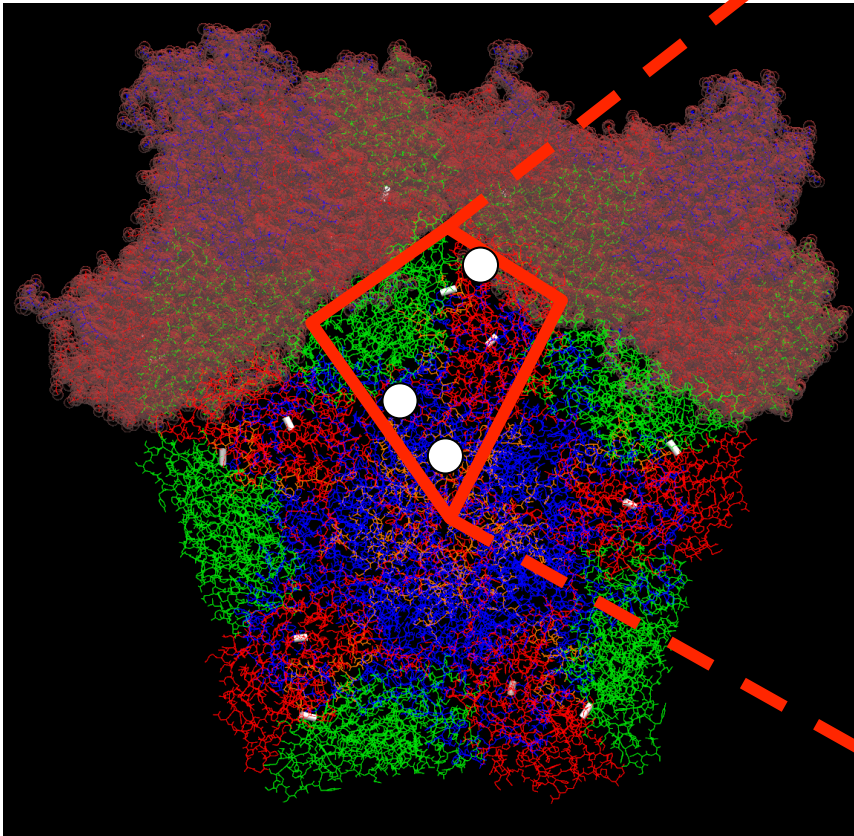
## Adaptation of thermoresistant CVB5

→ **They adapted !**

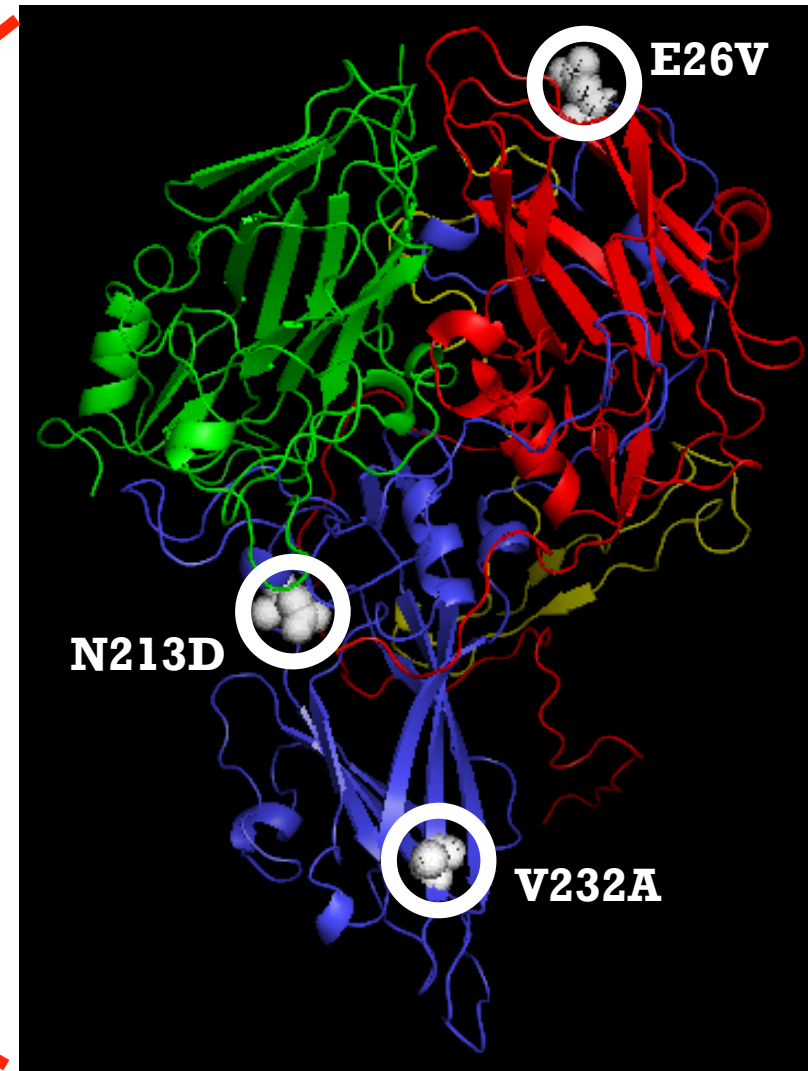
After sequencing of the structural region:

Negative control: V232A

55°C adapted: V232A E26V N213D



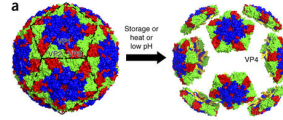
**E26V Mutation located at the interface of the pentameres**



# Summary and Conclusion

## 1. Identify the mechanisms of virus inactivation during heat treatment

- For high temperature inactivation:



AND protective effect of salt

- For low temperature inactivation: Still under investigation

## 2. Characterize structural features that enhance thermostability

- Electrostatics interaction within the pentameric interface

→ *Further analysis on going to see how those electrostatics change when the salt concentration is increased*

## 3. Identify mutations associated to thermal stability

- Electrostatics interactions within the pentameric interface

→ *Amino acid change from neutral to negative side chain charge*

**Even simple matrices can have a strong capsid stabilizing effect**

**Thermal inactivation can be less effective than expected**

# Acknowledgments

# Thank you

## **LCE Team:**

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Jason Torrey      Suzanne Young

Camille Wolf      Ana Karina

Odile Larivé      Margot Olive

Virginie Bachmann

Jade Brandani      Karine Maritz



**SWISS NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION**



**ÉCOLE POLYTECHNIQUE  
FÉDÉRALE DE LAUSANNE**

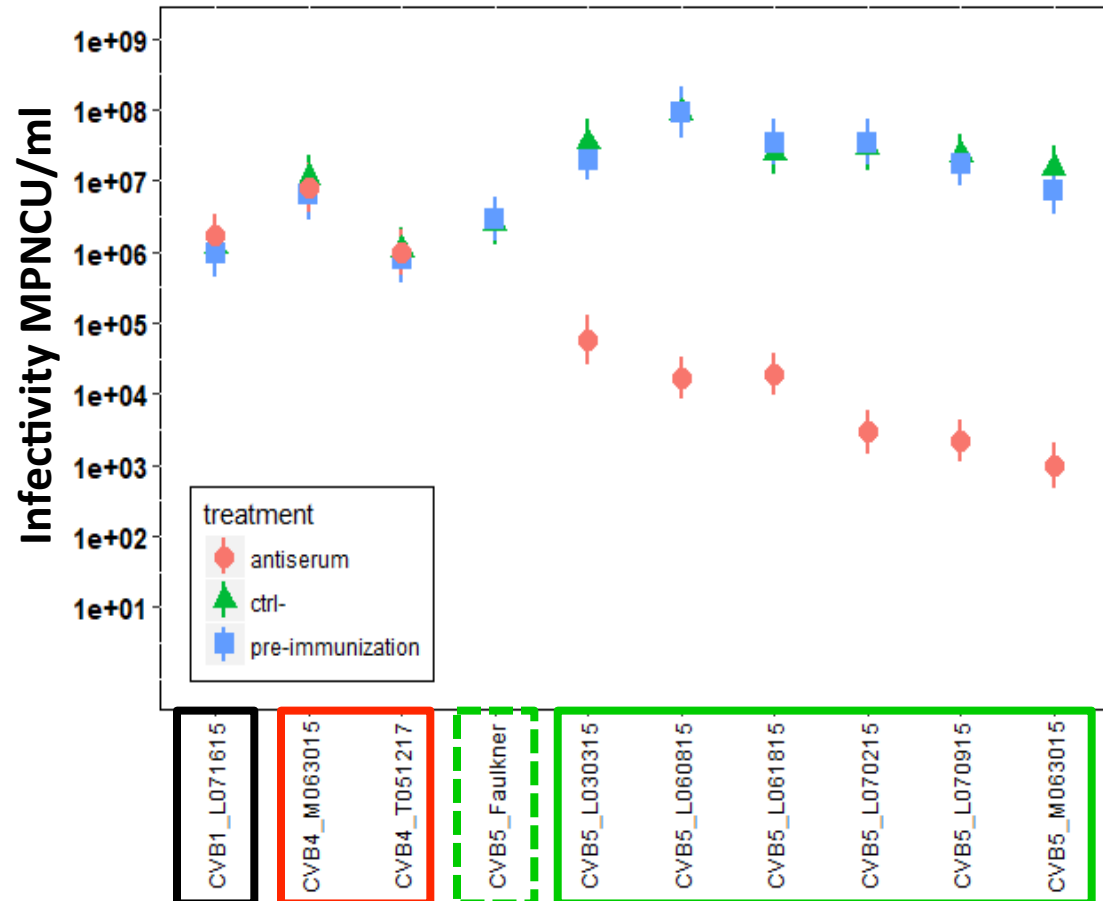
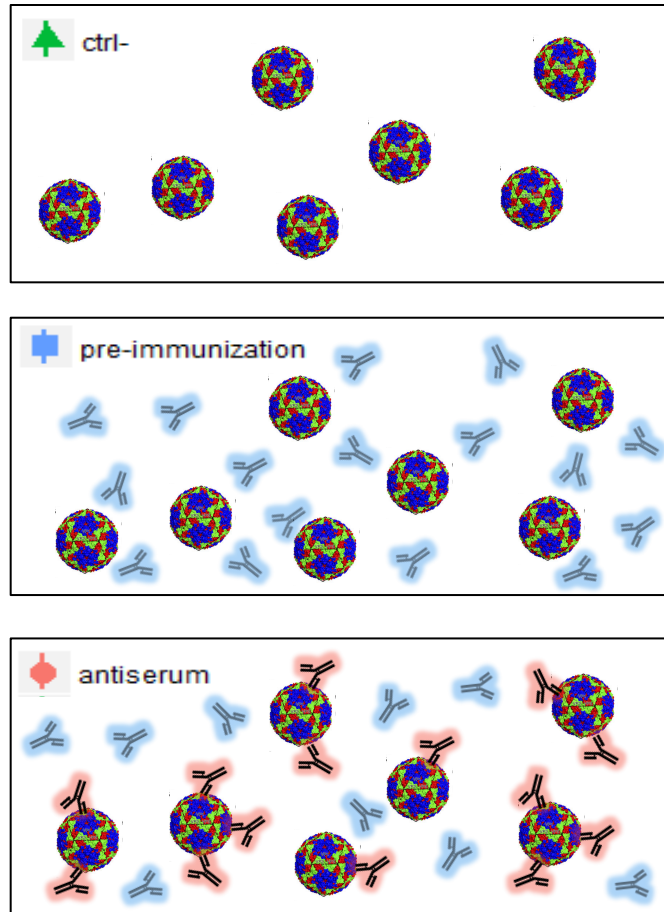




# Results

## First insights on the capsid structure of the isolates

### Antigenic divergence assay



→ The CVB5 isolates have only a partial inactivation

# Results

## Insights on heat adapted viruses

1.

**CVB-Faulkner**

**BGMK-adapted  
viruses**

**10 passages  
for cell adaptation**



*2-log dilutions*

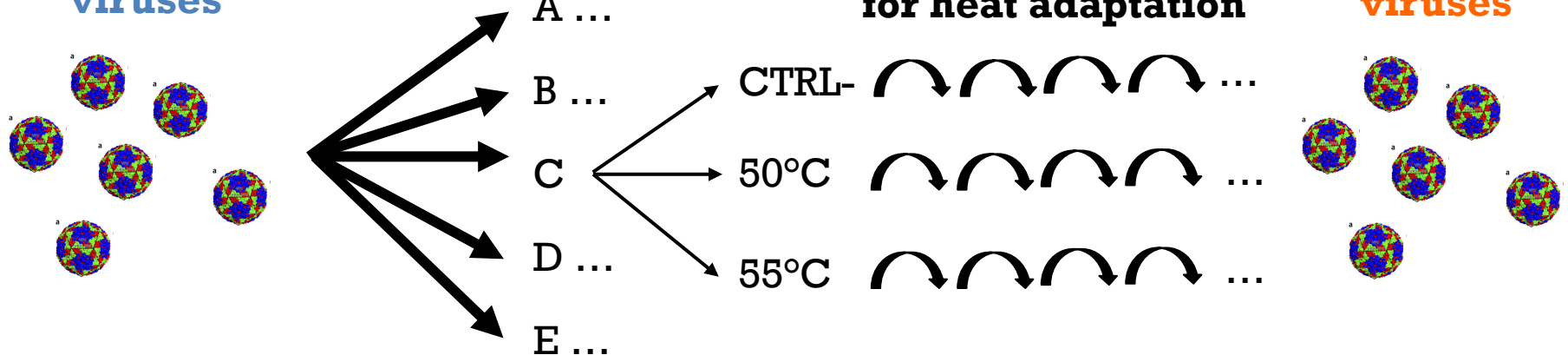
2.

**BGMK-adapted  
viruses**

*5 replicates*

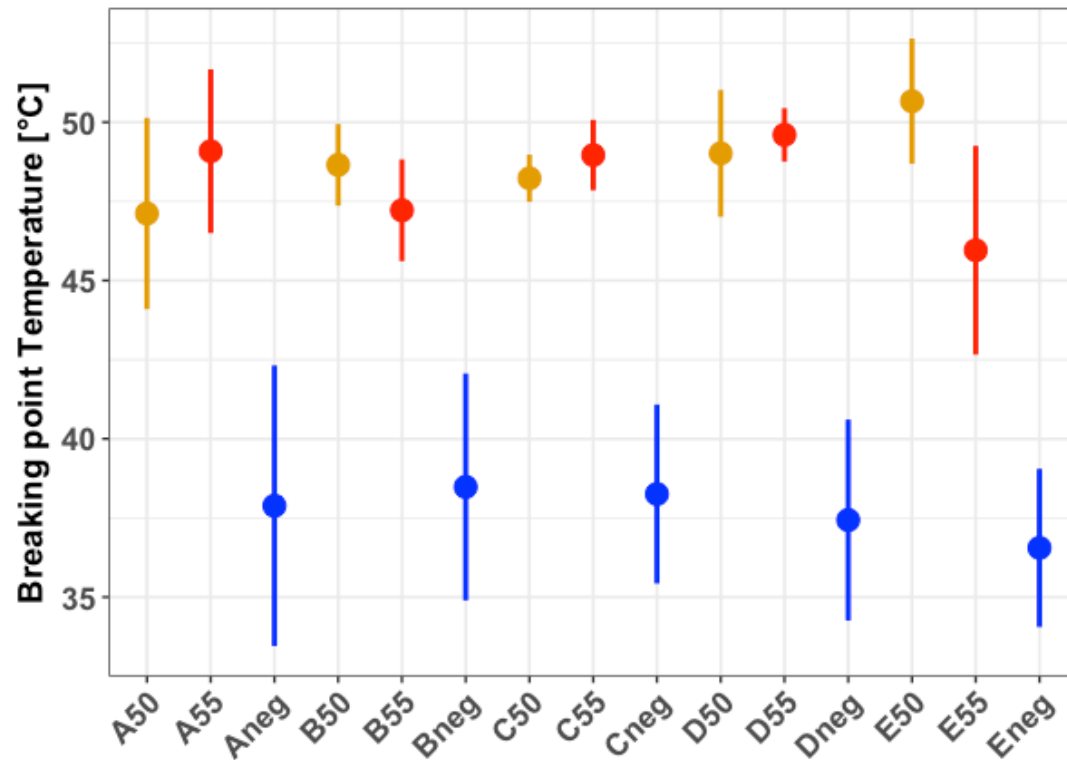
**10 passages  
for heat adaptation**

**Heat-adapted  
viruses**

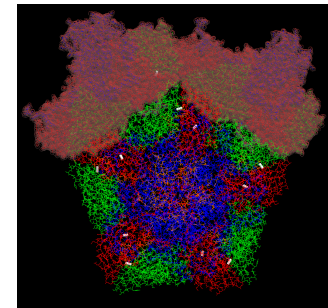


# Results

## Thermal-shift assay



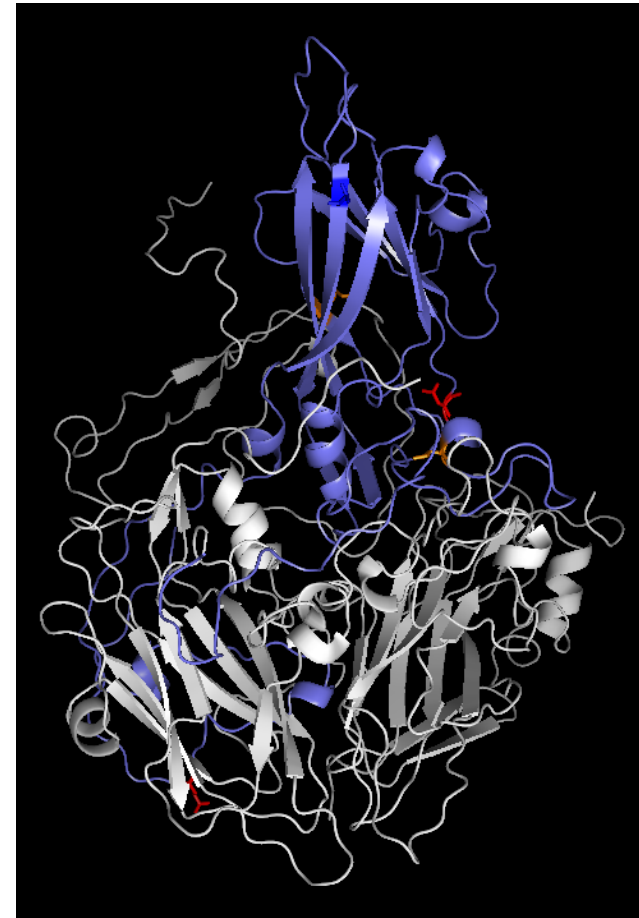
50°C adapted  
55°C adapted  
CTRL-



→ They adapted !

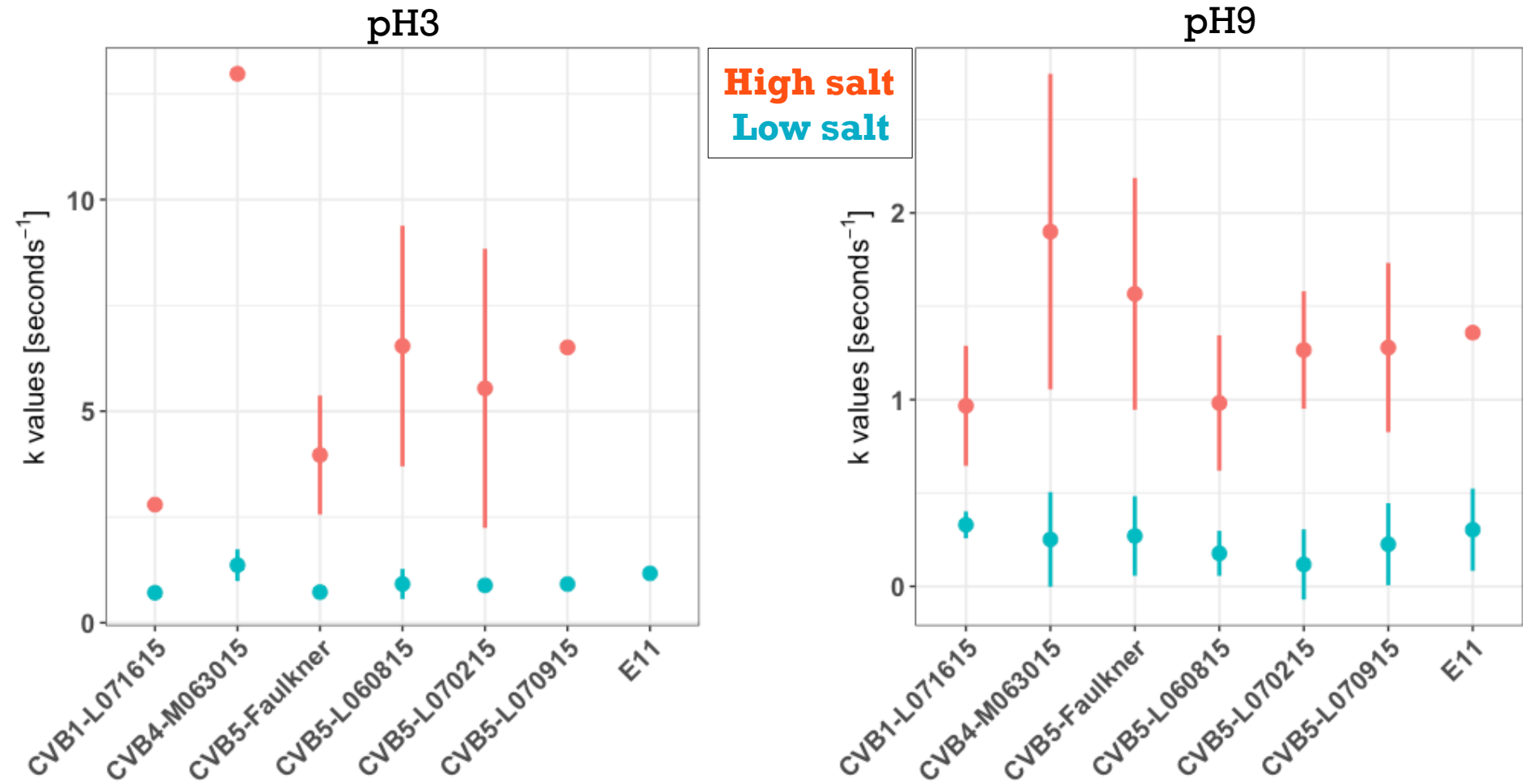
After sequencing of the structural region:

Model 1:	Negative control	V232A	
Model 2:	50°C adapted virus	V232A	I209F
Model 3:	50°C adapted virus	V232A	M180V
Model 4:	55°C adapted virus	V232A	E26V N213D



# Results

## Effect of salt and pH on thermostability at 30°C



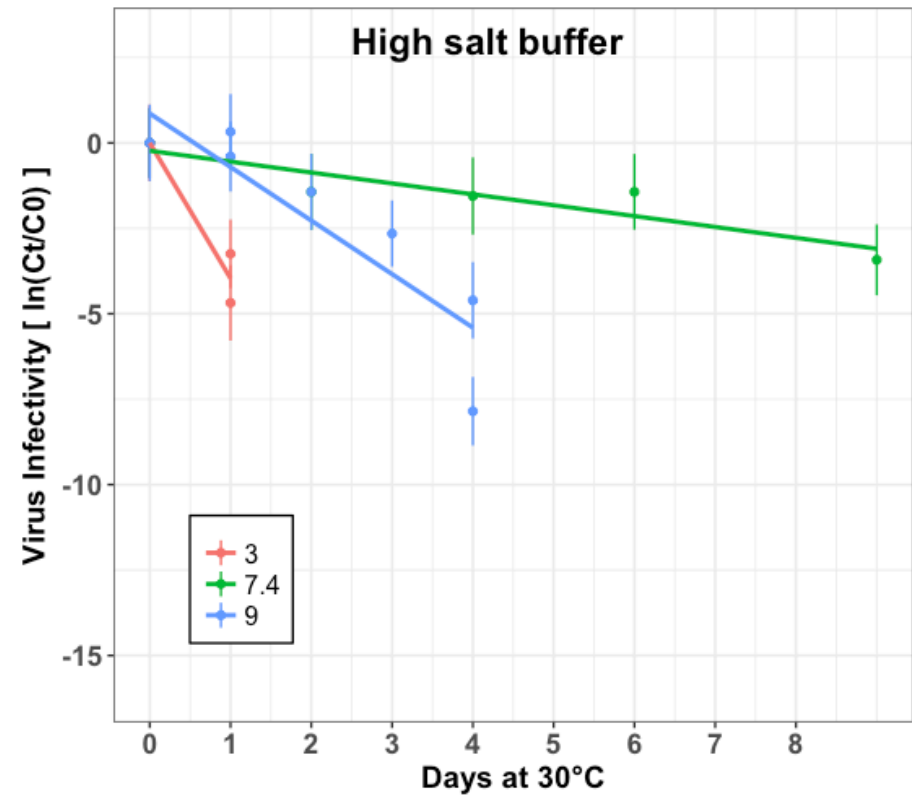
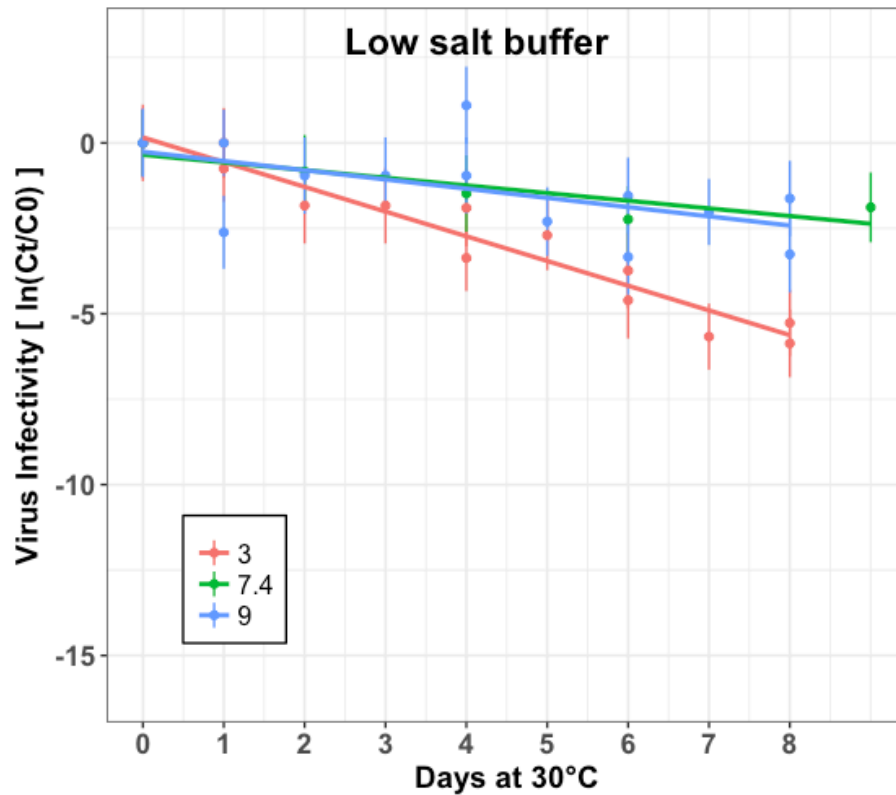
→ CVB4 appears as the most salt/pH-sensitive, and CVB1 the least



# Results

## Effect of salt on thermostability

30° C



No effect of salt at 30° C

→ The inactivation mechanisms are not the same at 55 and 30° C !